

Additional titles
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in the
SYMBOLS OF AMERICA
5 PART SERIES

Uncle Sam

The White House

The American Bald Eagle

Images of Liberty

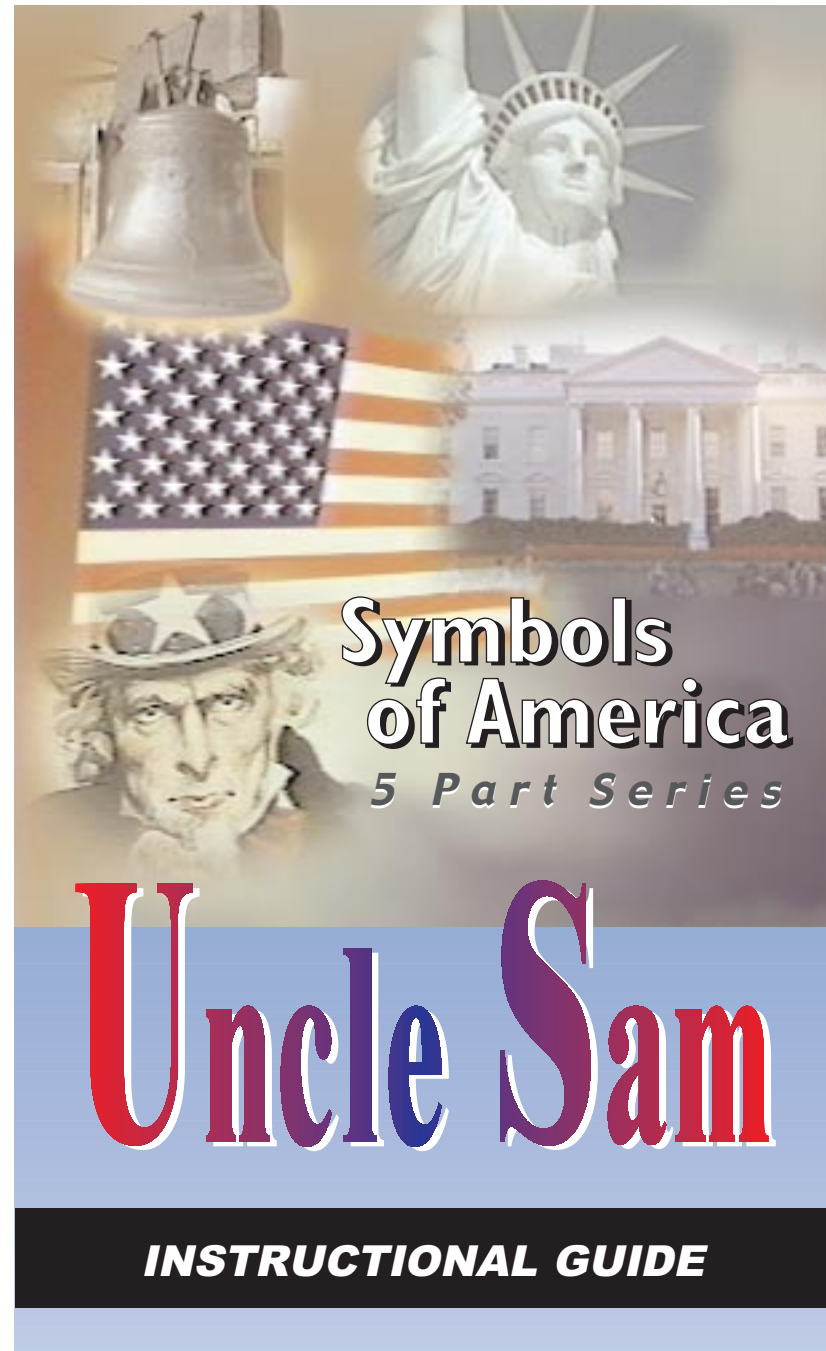
U.S. Flag



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**Symbols
of America**
5 Part Series

Uncle Sam

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

INTRODUCTION TO SERIES

The purpose of this video series is to acquaint young children to the importance of American symbols. It is designed to teach how symbols are objects or pictures that represents a much larger idea. Throughout American history symbols have played a significant role in how ideas have become an influential fabric of our culture. American symbols represent and communicate who we are and what we value as a society. As children learn the importance of symbolism they will understand their contribution to American history and how symbols have evolved to help shape and define a nation – The United States of America.

As a complementary device with each video, an instructional guide suggests exercises to help aid teachers, parents and students. These interactive exercises will reinforce and further develop a child's level of comprehension about the importance of symbols and the joy of learning.

The instructional guide provides:

Child-friendly **exercises!** ✓

Fun-to-do **follow-up activities!** ✓

Easy-to-learn **reinforcement Q & A!** ✓

**E-Guides available at
www.filmideas.com**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UNCLE SAM
CONSIDER VISITING THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:**

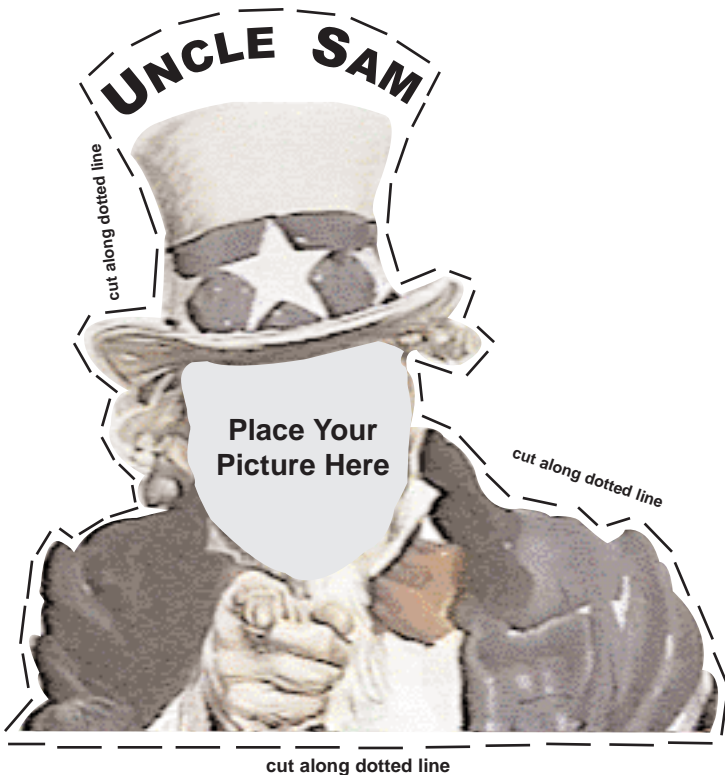
http://home.nycap.rr.com/content/us_contents.html
<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm015.html>
<http://bensguide.gpo.gov/3-5/symbols/unclesam.html>
<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/british/>

**Permission granted to copy the
exercises provided in this guide.
For educational use ONLY.**

After students successfully complete the exercises chosen in this guide, have them cut out and place their picture in the “Uncle Sam” symbol.



The purpose of “Uncle Sam” is to teach children how symbols originated and their affect on American history and culture. Today visual communication is an essential part of the American lifestyle especially with children. Computer video games, the internet, movies & TV all influence the way children view the world. Symbolism is a large part of today’s mass media and throughout history symbols like “Uncle Sam” continue to profoundly articulate ideas. From its humble beginnings, to its changing past, to its present form, children will enjoy and appreciate the interesting story about Uncle Sam’s origins and historic relevance. Students will be amazed to learn how “Uncle Sam” our national symbol derived from a real man named Samuel Wilson—and how this unique image helped recruit soldiers during both World War I and II. By understanding the power of symbols like “Uncle Sam” youngsters will appreciate their value and gain insight into their purpose and powerful message.



Program Objectives

After viewing the program, children should understand:

- what symbols are and what “Uncle Sam” represents.
- the history of “Uncle Sam”.
- how “Uncle Sam” received its name.
- the important people and events involved with the origins and creation of “Uncle Sam” the symbol.
- the many different forms/images associated with “Uncle Sam” and how they were used in the past and even today.

VOCABULARY:

James Montgomery Flagg: American Artist who featured “Uncle Sam” in the famous recruiting poster for the armed services during World War I & II.

John Bull: An English symbol used during the time when American Colonists were a part of England and represented England as a strong and powerful country.

Paul Revere: An American colonist who during his famous midnight ride warned fellow colonists that British soldiers were coming to take away their muskets and gunpowder.

Samuel Wilson: A meat packer from Troy, New York who later became the real man Uncle Sam from which the symbol “Uncle Sam” began.

Symbol: An object or picture that represents a much larger idea.

Uncle Sam: An American symbol representing the people and government of the United States.

Yankee Doodle: A character developed in England to symbolize and ridicule people who lived in the American colonies. Yankee means colonist and Doodle means foolish or silly person. Together Yankee Doodle means a foolish colonial person.

Reinforcement Q&A:

Review the video
to answer the following questions:

- 1) Uncle Sam comes from what initials?
- 2) During what war did the symbol “Uncle Sam” begin to come to life? What country were the American colonists fighting during this war?
- 3) Who is the real man “Uncle Sam”?
- 4) James Montgomery Flagg created a famous poster featuring “Uncle Sam”. What was the purpose of this poster?
- 5) What popular song written by George Cohen was inspired by “Uncle Sam”?
- 6) Where is the largest “Uncle Sam” statue?
- 7) Name some of the American ideals which are represented by the image of “Uncle Sam”.

(1) U.S. United States
(2) War of 1812 / England
(3) Samuel Wilson
(4) To recruit soldiers for WW I & again in WW II
(5) I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy
(6) Lake George, New York
(7) People & government of the U.S., democracy, integrity, freedom, & patriotism

Follow-Up Activities:

1) Symbols communicate ideas. Have the children draw or cut out different symbols from publications and present them to their fellow classmates. As the symbols are presented have the students describe what they think each symbol represents.

2) Have the children tour your school or community and document the symbols they see. After writing them down on a piece of paper have the children research the symbol using resources like the internet to describe what each symbol represents. During their research perhaps have them write a short historical perspective on the origins of the symbol.

3) Symbols communicate ideas! Have the children discuss a problem in your school or community. For example, is their confusion in the lunch room cafeteria as to how the children should line up and be served for food and beverages; or is there miscommunication about where certain school supplies should be stored; are certain rooms and school yard areas properly marked for student safety etc. After discussing the problem evaluate whether the problem may possibly be solved by the children creating posters which effectively communicate ideas through symbols.

Exercise #1:

Have the students study the vocabulary list on page 2. Then write the number of the vocabulary word on the solid black line next to its definition.

Vocabulary List:

1) *Symbol*

3) *Uncle Sam*

2) *Samuel Wilson*

4) *Yankee Doodle*

_____ means a foolish colonial person.

_____ an object or picture that represents a much larger idea.

_____ a meat packer and the real man Uncle Sam from which the symbol "Uncle Sam" began.

_____ American symbol representing the people and government of the United States.

Exercise #2:

The symbol “Uncle Sam” is used in many different ways. Observe the “Uncle Sam” images below and on the solid black lines write a description on how it is used. If needed use the list.



1) _____

2) _____



3) _____

4) _____

- 1) Uncle Sam featured on an armed forces recruiting poster.
2) A 90 foot tall hot air balloon.
3) Uncle Sam enjoying a parade.
4) World's largest Uncle Sam statue in Lake George N.Y.

Exercise #3:

A symbol is an object or picture that represents a much larger idea. Circle the correct answer which best describes what “Uncle Sam” represents.

- The colors red, white and blue.
- The people and government of the United States.
- Grumpy old men
- Grampa in a parade
- Clowns in a circus
- College professors